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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/036,159 Art Unit: 1713
Applicant: Jess R. Booth Examiner: Peter D. Mulcahy
Filed: December 26, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of October 7, 2003 in which claims 87-93 were rejected as obvious over Abstract No. AN – 186004356, claims 32-93 were rejected as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,492,741 to Akao et al., and claims 32-93 were rejected as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 3,843,591 to Hedrick et al.

Claims 32-93 are pending in this application.

I. **Rejections over Abstract No. AN – 186004356**

The rejection of claims 87-93 as obvious over Abstract No. AN – 186004356 IA is respectfully traversed. The Abstract describes a composition comprising a thermoplastic polymer, cristobalite powder, aluminum oxide powder, and quartz powder, for producing an item having a marble-like texture and appearance. The only component ranges indicated are 3-40 wt. % methyl methacrylate, 5-80 wt. % cristobalite powder, 2-20 wt. % aluminum oxide powder, and 5-80 wt. % quartz powder.